



NOTE! July 27: NARFE National Call Congress, President Obama Day

TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192 NARFE NEWS

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
"Advocates for Active and Former Federal Employees"

NARFE: www.narfe.org Washington Federation: www.narfewa.net Tri-Cities: www.narfe1192.org

July – August, Volume 2011, Issue 4

2011 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Don Binder	509.585.1393
1 st Vice President, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
2 nd Vice President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
Secretary, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Treasurer, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Alzheimer's, Bill Darke	509.375.7757
Hospitality, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
Legislative, Don & Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Membership/Newsletter, Johanna Caylor	509.308.6664
NARFE-PAC, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
Parliamentarian, Mable Rutt	509.943.1812
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Service Center, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
Sunshine, Marci Lingle	509.627.6628
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Chapter E-mail: narfe1192@gmail.com	

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August
11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion, Clearwater "C"
Lunch: \$13; reservations requested
(Vegetarian plates available, if ordered ahead)
Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary

September 7 – Program: Kennewick Police Dept.
Gangs & the Tri-Cities – What You Need to Know
Also: Celebrate the Chapter's 40th birthday!
Menu: Beef Lasagna

October 5 – Program (Tentative): Gathering
information you/your family need to know
Menu: Open-Faced Turkey Sandwich

JUNE TREASURER'S REPORT*

Balance forward, May 31	\$ 7,192.04
June Income	\$ 642.16
June Expenditures	\$ 1,160.77
Dedicated funds	\$ 1,351.00
Balance on hand, June 30	\$ 5,322.43

(*Full reports are on the Chapter web site.)

SERVICE CENTER

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Federal Bldg., Richland, Room 137
Phone: 509.373.9536

Service Center Coordinator: 2nd VP Lorie Bennett

Service Center Update. Yes, we're open! No, we're not on vacation! So, feel free to call or stop by and learn what resources are available. **Remember: our chapter is an exception** – it has a Service Office. So, call or come by!

Caller Coordinator. "The more the merrier ..." so the saying goes! Or, "more hands make less work ..." Either way, can you spare a few minutes each month to make a few calls to chapter members? If so, please call Pam Griffin, 509.492.4304, or e-mail: pgriff1@earthlink.net.



Did You Know

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Travelers' Health website has info on meds, vaccines, etc., to prevent illness/injury during international travel. See: wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/
NARFE Disaster Relief Fund – for those with property damage following a declared natural disaster. Call the Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund, **800.338.0755 (800.323.4140 after hours)** or e-mail feeahq@aol.com.

Always Good to Know

OPM: 888-767-6738, "Retirement Info Line"
OPM: www.opm.gov/retire/
E-mail questions to: retire@opm.gov
Resource Guide: *Be Prepared for Life's Events*
(available at: www.narfe.org)
NARFE Toll-Free Number: 800-627-3994;
Toll-Free Legislative Hotline: 800-217-8234
Facebook: Log onto Facebook, go to "NARFE National Headquarters," then "Like"

Chapter President – Don Binder

As I write this, Congress and the Administration continue to posture regarding the debt ceiling increase and FY 2012 budget. It is clear that pay for active federal employees, and benefits for both active and retired federal employees are in the “cross hairs” as ways to move the debt.

So, NARFE has set **Wednesday, July 27, as National Call Congress, President Obama Day.** Find details in our Legislative update, page 3.

Have you checked out NARFE’s **PROTECT America’s Heartbeat** on the NARFE website? If not, please do so. This is NARFE’s campaign to explain what federal employees have and are doing, AND that these same employees have sacrificed to help solve our nation’s budgetary problems. You can register to have pre-written letters sent directly to Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, and to Representative Doc Hastings. Sending these letters is so important, as with numbers comes Congressional attention. If you do not have computer access, feel free to call me. I will help you get your voice heard.



June 17, Mary and I were at the Three Rivers Convention Center to represent our chapter at the **3rd Annual Senior Life Show**. It was a great opportunity to meet people and talk about NARFE and our chapter. We met several people new to the area, one about to retire and others in the area who are retired but who did not know about NARFE. We are following up with these potential new NARFE members!

40th Birthday – Chapter 1192
September 7 Chapter Meeting
Look back, look ahead.
Tell stories, see friends.
Meet new members.
Hope you can join us!



Public Relations – Mary Binder

In September, the Chapter will celebrate its official 40th birthday! To prepare – and help maintain the Chapter’s history – we need photos, old newsletters and/or other items. Have anything? Please contact me: mary_binder@msn.com, or 509-585-1393.

1st VP/Hospitality Chairman – Carl Gallion

See this face? That’s me ... trying to laugh to avoid crying! The good news – I’m on the mend, again! The not-so-good news – I fell, re-broke my mended hip, had surgery and am once again in the throws of rehab! Thanks for the cards, visits and wishes. See you soon.



2nd VP/Special Programs – Lorie Bennett

I hope you are enjoying summer! I am, but am also looking forward to seeing you in the fall!

District V Vice President – Steve Anderson

I was pleased to see so many Chapter 1192 members at the May convention. Our district is a major force due in no small part to your support. Now, another significant event is approaching – your chapter’s 40th birthday! I am honored that President Don Binder invited me. I am looking forward to attending and meeting more members.

Alzheimer’s Research Fund – William Darke

Congratulations! For the reporting period May 2010 through April 2011, the chapter contributed \$1,653 – an increase from \$1,045 for the previous period. I think we can feel very good about contributing to such a worthwhile cause. I hope you are having a great summer, and I look forward to seeing you in the fall! I will again be accepting donations at our meetings. All the funds are used for Alzheimer’s Research, **and our chapter gets credit.**



NARFE-PAC – Carl Gallion

Thank you! From January through June this year, 17 chapter members contributed \$735 to NARFE-PAC. However, as we know, the battle is not over. Attacks continue on federal employees and retirees, and our earned benefits, continue. So, please consider donating to our “war chest.” ALL donations, no matter the amount, are welcomed!

Webmaster – Larry Williams

I’ve received information from NARFE’s IT director explaining that NARFE’s national web server and credit card processing use the most secured encryption to protect private communications over the Internet. This is reassuring to me, and can be to you, too, when providing your contact information, **including e-mails addresses,** to NARFE.

Legislative – Don and Mary Binder
NARFE President Joe Beaudoin is asking members to call President Obama, and their 2 senators and representative, **Wednesday, July 27, to** let them know their views. This is **NARFE’s National Call Congress, President Obama Day!** Here are some details:

- White House toll-free number: **888.225.8418**.
- Capitol switchboard: **866.220.0044**. Ask for your legislators by name or provide your ZIP code. (**Note: Only contact your own elected senators and representative. Messages are disregarded if you are not a constituent.**)
- Message: **“My name is _____, and I live in (name city/town). I am a federal retiree (or worker). Don’t single us out with more cuts to the retirement and health benefits we earned through years of serving the public. Federal workers and retirees have already sacrificed pay and benefits.”**
- Whether talking with a Congressional staff person or leaving a recorded message, request your lawmaker respond in writing to your call. Leave your mailing address.

As U.S. citizens, taxpayers, current or retired federal employees, or spouses/widows/widowers of federal employees, we have a vested interest in what our elected officials are doing. So, it is more important than ever to be informed and to let our elected leaders know how we stand. Please consider doing so soon.

Contacting our Federal Legislators

The Honorable Richard (Doc) Hastings, U.S. House of Representatives
Phone: 202.225.5816; Fax: 202.225.3251
<http://hastings.house.gov/ContactForm.aspx>
2715 Saint Andrews Loop, Suite D
Pasco, WA 99301
Phone: 509.543.9396; Fax: 509.546.1972

The Honorable Patty Murray, U.S. Senate
Phone: 202.224.2621; Fax: 202.224.0514
<http://murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm>
402 East Yakima Avenue, Suite 390
Yakima, WA 98901
Phone: 509.453.7462; Fax: 509.453.7731

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, U.S. Senate
Phone: 202.224.3411; Fax: 202.228.0514
<http://cantwell.senate.gov/contact/index.dfm>
825 Jadwin Avenue, Suites 204/204A
Richland, WA 99352
Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937

Some additional food for thought – April 6, 1993, Public Law (P.L.) 103-12 increased the debt ceiling to \$4.37 trillion. July 30, 2008, and P.L. 110-289, it went to \$10.615 trillion. Then, it went to \$14.294 trillion, February 12, 2010, and P.L. 111-139. May 24, this year, House Resolution 1954 proposed an increase to \$16.7 trillion. The House defeated it May 31, but stay tuned!

And, as always, we recommend checking NARFE’s web site, www.narfe.org, to get updates. If you don’t have access to the Internet, want to discuss legislative issues of interest to you, or have other questions, feel free to contact us at: 509.585.1393; don_binder@msn.com; or mary_binder@msn.com.

Sunshine News – Marci Lingle

Condolences – to Leon and Lorie Bennett (Lorie’s sister-in-law passed); Nancy Crosby (father and mother passed); Dave Langstaff (wife passed); Art Lassila (wife passed); Sherri Scheer (father passed); John Slaughter (son passed); family of member Paul Weaver Jr; family of Marion Wilson (former NARFE state treasurer and service officer); Charles Caughlan, current NARFE state service officer (wife passed); Congressman Doc Hastings (mother passed).



Thoughts are with them and their families.

Special Get Well Thoughts/Wishes To – Carl Gallion and Don Segna.

Please let me know about members affected by a significant event such as an illness, loss, or an extra-special occasion. Contact me at: tclingles@clearwire.net or 509-627-6628.

Thoughts from Afar
Deacon Al Rizzo
(via Dolores Rizzo)



One day, a prisoner I was working with said, “I feel like Jonah in the whale.” My response, “What are you going to do when you get spit out?” Silence, but I could see his wheels spinning. So, how will you face your next challenge?

National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Johanna Caylor
514 Stagecoach Ct
Richland, WA 99354
E-mail: caylorx2@aol.com

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 173
Richland, WA

Return Service Requested

New for Retirees!
Dues Withholding
Application
on NARFE website.
Go to the home page,
click on
"Join NARFE" block,
then "By Mail."

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: Ben Brown (from life-only to chapter member)

Welcome back: Virginia Coffman; Rudy Guercia; Christine Jackson; Tony Lorenz; W. Paul Manuel

Transferred in: David Trukositz; Barry Richards

Renewals: NARFE is now e-mailing renewal notices to those who have provided e-mail addresses to NARFE. Watch for details in the *NARFE* magazine, and updates at our meetings. However, if you have questions or need help with your membership, call me.

Remember: The WSFC Federation provides \$10 rebates for: **1-Dues withholding; and, 2-Spouse sign up.** (NOTE: *Only retirees are eligible for dues withholding. Send no money when applying; only \$3.67 withheld monthly from your annuity. NO more renewal notices!*)

NARFE provides an \$8 rebate for new "AFE" memberships – active federal employees.

Reminder: Please, notify the Chapter and NARFE if you change your mailing, e-mail, or other contact information – this applies to "Snowbirds," too!

Call or e-mail me: 509-375-0739 or 509-308-6664; or, caylorx2@aol.com.

Hidden numbers: 3 in this issue – last 4 digits of a member's number! Contact me if you find yours; win \$5! May/June newsletter numbers belonged to:



Wanda Glover; Santos Ortega; Patricia Slape. No calls; no winners. Sorry!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

NARFE National Call Day, July 27

Labor Day, September 5

Chapter 1192's 40th Birthday

Celebration, September 7

